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# INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Alfredo Varela, who attended the Warsaw Congress of Intellectuals in August 1948 as a representative of the Communist Party of Argentina (CPA) and later went to Moscow, is an important leader of the CPA, a member of the staff of the Communist newspaper La Hora, and a contributor to the Communist weekly Orientacion.
2. Varela was born in Buenos Aires on 24 September 1914. He began contributing to the press at the age of 18. His first editorial position was on the staff of the Buenos Aires daily, Critica.
3. In 1940 he joined the Communist Party of Argentina. Soon afterwards he left the Critica to join the editorial staff of La Hora. A studious man with a natural literary talent, he worked seriously in the field of writing. In 1943 he published his first book, El Rio Oscuro (The Dark River) which was translated into several languages including Russian. The work was characterized by extremist political views. Since its publication, he has reportedly been considered, especially in leftist circles, as an important intellectual. He has published other works. During the war and after he contributed to various American publications as well as Russian periodicals.
4. Varela was imprisoned in 1945 for his Communist activities and spent some time on the Isla de Martin Garcia. He has also been in jail in Ushuaia and in Tierra del Fuego for his political activities.
5. Varela's position in the CPA is important. He has managed numerous Communist literary enterprises. In 1946 he was given an important position with La Hora and at present is a member of La Hora's board of directors. In 1946 he was accredited as a newspaper correspondent to represent the Argentine Communists in Paraguay while that country was engaged in civil war. Varela's correspondence to CPA leaders blamed the revolution and turmoil in Paraguay on the intervention of the United States. He has also visited various other South American countries as a correspondent for the Communist press of Argentina. At one time he was a candidate for national deputy on the Communist ticket. In 1947 he was included in a list of the more important and active leaders of the CPA.

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6. Varela flew to Europe on 16 August 1948 to attend the World Congress of Intellectuals in Warsaw as an official representative of the CPA. He is reported to have met Enrique Amorin, who left Buenos Aires by air on 11 July, in Paris, from where the two CPA leaders traveled together to the Warsaw Congress. Varela was also scheduled to attend the International Congress of Working Youth the same month in Poland. The CPA was reported to have financed most of Varela's expenses from funds especially collected for that purpose. Before Varela left Buenos Aires he was feted by leaders of the CPA and staff members of La Hora.
7. In addition to attending the Warsaw Congress, Varela had also planned to visit Rumania, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and possibly Moscow. It was later reported that Varela had spent several months in France, besides visiting other European countries, and had then gone to Moscow where he expected to remain for an indefinite period. This last trip was apparently an unforeseen development. Toward the end of October 1948 a letter was received in Argentina from Varela in France, stating that he hoped to return to Argentina about the 20th of November. In the same letter he wrote that he was in touch with Enrique Amorin who with his wife was then in Russia. In late November it was reported that Varela had delayed his return to Argentina as he was leaving Paris for Moscow accompanied by the Brazilian Communist Jorge Amado and the Spanish Communist Jesus Izcaray.
8. At the present time, Varela is believed to be still in Europe. On 31 December 1948 he was reported to have spoken from Radio Moscow in a broadcast beamed to the Americas. The most recent report on Varela's present whereabouts was received in April 1949 and indicated that La Hora had received several chronicles from Varela who was then still in Europe.

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